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# ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE SECOND PART OF ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Wolfgang STÖCKL (Germany)

## II. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

Section 15. Economic Commission for Africa

1. At its 28th meeting on 18 October 1993, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 15 A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

### Discussion

2. Several delegations expressed satisfaction at the improved presentation of the programme narrative and the restructuring of the subprogrammes consistent with the objectives and priorities contained in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. A number of delegations welcomed the contents of the programme narrative relating to regional integration and emphasized the importance of strengthening subregional institutions, taking into account the recent developments in that field, mainly the entry into force of the treaty establishing the African Economic Community, which was expected shortly.

3. Various delegations expressed the importance they attached to the continuing development of Africa, including the adequate implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. They felt that the growth level proposed for that section was not commensurate with the

tasks to be undertaken and urged that additional resources should be allocated to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Several delegations felt that the subprogrammes and activities related to poverty alleviation, but that women and children had not been given the priority attention they deserved in the programme narrative nor in the distribution of resources. Some delegations expressed the view that ECA must undertake internal prioritization to focus better on substantive activities of a high priority nature.

4. A number of delegations expressed concern at the decline in the level of extrabudgetary resources, particularly from traditional funding sources like the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

5. Several delegations stressed the need to ensure that the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) and the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) received adequate resources for implementing their programmes. Some delegations felt that it was inappropriate to provide grants on a continued basis and questioned the proposal to renew "non-recurrent" provisions. Other delegations considered it inappropriate to provide grants to regional institutes from the regular budget.

## Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Committee took note of the improved presentation of the programme narrative of the section.

7. The Committee noted the relative inattention given to issues pertaining to social development in the programme of work. It stressed the importance of activities in that field and the need for them to be strengthened and allocated adequate resources.

8. The Committee laid emphasis on the need to allocate adequate resources in support of activities related to poverty alleviation, women and children.

9. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of the programme narrative of section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

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